## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KINGST 01130 101851Z ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 OPIC-06 /025 W

-----110435Z 110347 /22

R 101801Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4362
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGET

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

**UNCLAS KINGSTON 1130** 

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: EGEN

SUBJECT: SAD DAY IN BUNNYLAND

1. PLAYBOY INTERNATIONAL HAS CLOSED DOWN ITS OCHO RIOS (ORACABESSA) HOTEL EFFECTIVE MARCH 15. THE PLAYBOY ANNOUNCEMENT, ISSUED IN CHICAGO, STATED THAT "THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED DECLINE IN TOURISM IN TOURSIM IN THE POLITICALLY-TROUBLED ISLAND, AGGRAVATED BY GREATLY RESTRICTIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING WAGES, IMPORTS, ETC. IT HAS BECOME IMPOSSIBLE FOR A PRIVATELY-OWNED HOTEL TO OPERATE."

2. MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM, JACK STEPHENSON, ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE MARCH 9 SAYING THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER OF THE HOTEL HAD BEEN TAKING PLACE SINCE FEBRUARY 1976 BUT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS "THE TERMS PROPOSED PROVED UNACCEPTABLE TO US".

STEPHENSON ALSO NOTED THAT HOTELS WHICH HAVE ADOPTED "AN AGRESSIVE POSITION IN THE MARKET HAVE HAD CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS OF LATE".

3. COMMENT: THE CONSULATE REPORTS A FLOOD OF "BUNNIES" SEEKING U.S. VISAS OVER THE PAST WEEK. UNCLASSIFIED

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GERARD

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, TOURISM, HOTELS

Control Number: n/a

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Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: SAD DAY IN BUNNYLAND

TAGS: EGEN, EINV, ETRD, JM, US, PLAYBOY INTERNATIONAL

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